

Peer-to-Peer Occupational Skills Training
San Antonio YO!
February 25-27, 2002
Workshop Overview

There will be five main areas of focus in the Connecting Youth to Occupational Skills Training workshop:

- Understanding local labor market information and economic development trends to identify jobs in demand—what it is; how to get it; how to use it
- Identifying and engaging employers and other workplace partners and intermediaries in the design and delivery of skills training and related work-based learning
- Identifying key elements of an occupational skills training system in your Youth Opportunity (YO) program—what are they and how do you know if they are working effectively?
- Integrating occupational skills training with other pre-placement YO activities such as work experience and community service
- Identifying and addressing challenges in engaging youth in skills training and helping them to successfully complete the program

Participants will learn:

- The basic elements of a plan for connecting YO members with occupational skills training
- How to find out what jobs are in demand in your area and how to use this information in planning and implementing your skills training program
- How to identify and engage employers, other workplace partners (i.e., unions, community colleges, community and faith-based organizations), and other intermediaries (i.e., trade associations, Chamber of Commerce)
- How to use work-based learning to prepare youth to successfully enter and complete skills training
- How to identify and procure training providers to meet the needs of youth in your program

By the end of the workshop, participants will:

- Be able to make recommendations and develop an action plan for improving the quality of occupational skills training that the site currently offers YO
- Have a better understanding of what “labor market information” means, how to get it, and how to use it to benefit youth in your program
- Expand their knowledge of how to engage employers, other workplace partners, and intermediaries in occupational skills training programs
- Increase their ability to write an RFP for occupational skills training, especially for out-of-school youth
- Know about resources available to help sites develop quality occupational skills training for youth who are not educationally prepared, have learning or other disabilities, or youth who say they “only want a job”